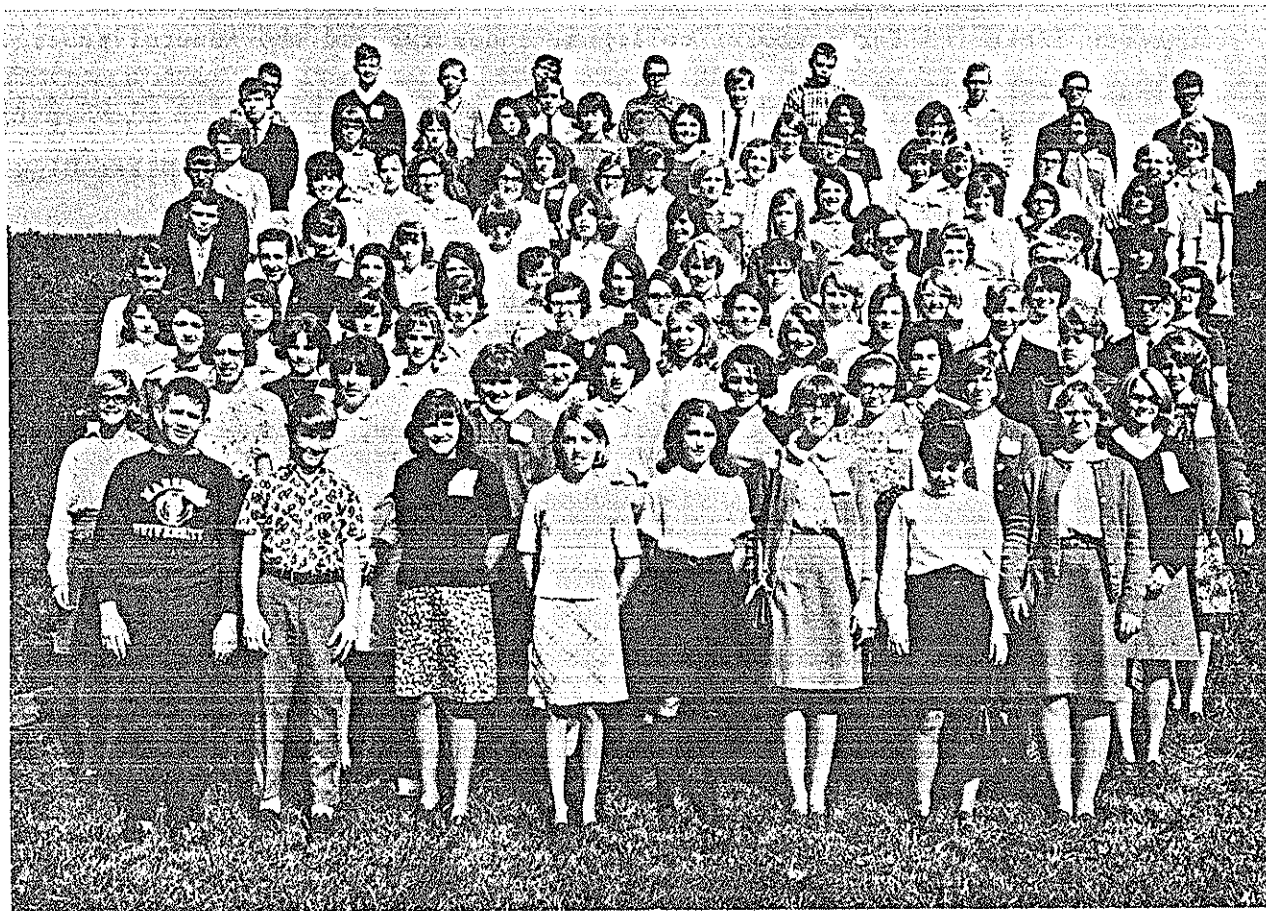


LIBRARY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

2004 Quarrier St., Charleston, West Virginia (25311)

October 1966



THE STUDENT ASSISTANT GETS OUT OF THE STACKS

W.V.S.L.A.A. (The West Virginia Student Library Assistants Association)

met at Cedar Lakes September 24-25 with 37 schools represented by 109 students and 21 librarians. (Story on the rear of the page)

"THE STUDENT ASSISTANT GETS OUT OF THE STACKS"

For years libraries have exploited students, using them for the monotonous drudgery of shelving books, mending books, stamping books and typing catalog cards. Back in 1961 school librarians in Huntington spearheaded by Harriet Graver held an autumn conference for student library assistants at Cedar Lakes. This year's conclave was the fifth state meeting in which the student assistants had a chance to discover that librarians do have fun, and that ours is a rapidly expanding profession with a crying need for vigorous, active minds to operate libraries for schools, colleges, industry, and the general public.

This year's program at Cedar Lakes revealed that there is no dearth of ability in our school libraries. Peggy Golden, President from Nitro High School, presided very ably during three sessions of the conference.

Group singing was directed by C. L. Head of Pt. Pleasant. Mrs. Catherine Apel, librarian at Huntington High School, supervised the program. On the agenda were Miss Virginia Dober, School Library Supervisor, leading a discussion for school librarians on the administration of new federal funds for school libraries; Miss Olive Lewis, assistant professor of Library Science at W.V.U. and Frances Jones, Field Consultant for the Library Commission. The Commission's new mobile library dubbed the "READ-O-RAMA" was exhibited on Saturday evening during the conference. This second unit of the Library Commission's Book Express Service is now being offered to towns without public libraries.

Miss Betty Jane Wade continued a student workshop which has been offered at West Virginia University for three summers. Attendance in Morgantown this year totaled 83. This conference was originated by Olive Lewis. This year's program featured Dr. Maurice Brooks, author of "The Appalachians" and a panel discussion by students from abroad.

"PURPOSEFUL READING"
A Specialty
of
Regional Libraries

For a number of years the W. Va. Library Commission has cooperated with Home Demonstration Clubs (Formerly called Farm Women's Clubs) in supplying books from a recommended reading list. The program has grown in popularity over the years so that the Library Commission felt that the burden of supplying books should be delegated to Regional Libraries. (There is also a growing space problem in our Annex.) The Commission also wishes to encourage use of the resources in regional libraries by the leaders of these Adult Education programs.

Home Demonstration Club members and certain P.T.A. groups are therefore encouraged to use first their local library for books for the Purposeful Reading List and failing to find a title in the local library turn then to the Regional Library. County Assignments are made as follows:

| | |
|---|--|
| MIRACLE VALLEY REGION: Moundsville | Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Tyler, Pleasants, and Wood |
| STONEWALL JACKSON REGION: Buckhannon | Monongalia, Preston, Marion, Taylor, Barbour, Harrison, Lewis, Upshur, Randolph, and Braxton |
| ALPHA REGION: Spencer | Wirt, Roane, Jackson, Calhoun, Doddridge, Ritchie, and Clay |
| WESTERN COUNTIES REGION: Huntington South East Branch Library | Mason, Cabell, Wayne, Putnam, and Mingo |
| POTOMAC VALLEY REGION: Keyser | Tucker, Mineral, Pendleton, Hardy, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley, and Jefferson |
| KANAWHA COUNTY: Charleston | To serve all residents of the county |
| BOOK EXPRESS OFFICE: 2004 Quarrier St. Charleston | Gilmer, Webster, Lincoln, Boone, Summers, Wyoming, Logan, McDowell, Mercer, Fayette, Raleigh, Monroe, Nicholas, Pocahontas, and Greenbrier |

Planning with us on this new county assignment have been Miss Virginia Griffin and Mrs. Elinor Glenn of the Cooperative Extension Program at W.V.U. in Morgantown. Mrs. Ruth Brooks of Lumberport and Miss Helen Cole, Home Demonstration Agent at Summersville, were leaders in book selection for the new list.

Copies of the 1967 Purposeful Reading List will be made available soon in quantity. Contact the Field Office if your library cannot obtain a copy locally.

SPOT LIGHT
on
Childrens Reading

Though schoolhouse doors were closed, the lures to keep boys and girls reading were as numerous and varied as the multi colored flies in a trout fisherman's treasure box in the West Virginia public libraries. The Ohio County Public Library in Wheeling cooperated with a public school experimental enrichment program for forty boys and girls in the fifth and sixth grades. Library research was conducted on an informal basis -- projects ranging from "The Form and Structure of the Butterfly" to "Greek History Reported in Newspaper Form."The teacher in commenting on selection of participants said that it was not limited to the upper two percent but to good pupils who can benefit from the experience with library research. The initial library tour was led by the Children's Librarian, Nancy Matthews.

The Morgantown Public Library hired a children's assistant, Mary Ellen Bone. Her employment was made possible through Child Service League of Morgantown. Another factor was availability of additional assistants to take care of clerical work financed through the Work-Study program at the University. Miss Bone's position was "to emphasize assistance to the individual child, introducing him to the wide range of resources in a public library."

The Story Hour, a device which captivates even the non reader was prevalent throughout the West Virginia libraries this summer. The Naylor Public Library at Hedgesville held an Aero-Space Reading Club. In Parkersburg's Carnegie Library the Sigma Kappa sorority sponsored a Reading and Story program for 6 weeks.

Hardy County Library at Moorefield sponsored a story hour for school age children and several hours for the pre-school in churches throughout the community. The Shepherdstown Woman's Club held Story Hour in the evenings for the four to ten year old age group. Keyser-Mineral Library used volunteers to staff a morning program for children up to age 10. Mornings were also popular in Ravenswood for ages 4 to 7.

Martinsburg makes a specialty of the Book Worm Reading Club at the Main Library. Variety programs were sponsored at a regular club meeting each Friday. This summer the Apple City boasted 250 official Book Worms. The Inwood Branch at South Berkeley and the North Berkeley Branch at Falling Waters featured "Reading Round-Up." White Sulphur Springs Library had thirty young Book Worms registered by the Woman's Club, which offered cash awards for the best report at the end of the summer. A very elaborate winter program for youngsters is a regular feature in Kanawha County, climaxed with a Summer Party. All members earn their standing by reading 50 books each year for five consecutive years. They are initiated into the Noble Order of Book Worms in a formal ceremony at the Main Library guided by Wilma Brown, children's librarian.

"WHAT ABOUT BOOKS?"
Workshop Theme

For its third Annual Workshop on June 19, Potomac Valley Region moved its Workshop to the tip of the PanHandle - Shepherdstown. Arrangements were made jointly by Mrs. Mary Handlan, Regional Librarian from Keyser and the Library Committee of the Shepherdstown Woman's Club. Eight libraries were represented in the conclave: Hardy County Library, Keyser-Mineral, Hampshire County, Morgan County, Martinsburg, Old Charles Town, Pendleton County, and Shepherd College.

Featured speaker at the luncheon was Mrs. Veta Lee Smith, of the Shepherd College English Department, her subject, "The Community Library and the College Student." Mollie Shelton, bookmobile librarian for Keyser-Mineral, discussed "Children's Book Selection at the morning session. Dr. David G. Nuzum, President

of Potomac Valley Regional Library Board and Director of Student Affairs at Potomac State had for his subject at the afternoon session, "Significant Adult Books."

Mrs. Mary Handlan outlined the W.Va. Library Commission Book Selection policy in an afternoon discussion.

EXCESS LEVIES
an increasing
source of library
support

In their search for adequate tax support for public library service additional municipalities are passing excess levies. Latest to join the ranks is Kingwood. Under the leadership of their new chairman, Dr. John W. Trenton, this town passed a three year operating levy which will bring in over \$39,000.

Other libraries which have succeeded in obtaining excess levies for operating libraries are Buckhannon with a long history of regular renewals, Morgantown, Sistersville, and Welch.

Book of the
Month Club
Award Discontinued

The Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award for distinguished service rendered by small public libraries serving populations under 25,000 has been abandoned officially by the Board of Directors of the Book of the Month Club. West Virginia's public libraries will miss this competition. Our state continued to show interest in the program which started in 1958, and four libraries were recipients of the award -- Welch, Buckhannon, Keyser, and Moorefield. It served our libraries well-contributing \$5,000 to improvement of book collections in our public libraries. A round of applause and many thanks to a program which the Mountain State enjoyed.

Model
Library Insurance
Policy

West Virginia is one of 38 states whose insurance departments have approved the Special Library Insurance Policy offered by Hartford Fire Insurance Company. Information about the policy and the many features it offers libraries is provided from the Council on Libraries Resources Inc.